

Father "Tom" Burke delivered a speech in New York in 1872 in which he said: "Mr. Froude says that the parliament of 1872 was a failure because the Irish are incapable of self-legislation. It is a serious charge to make now against any people. I, who am not supposed to be a philosopher, and, because of the habit that I wear am supposed not to be a man of very large mind—I stand up here tonight and I assert my conviction that there is not a nation or a race under the sun that is not capable of self-legislation and that has not a right to the inheritance of freedom."

Caleb Powers has for the second time been convicted of complicity in the murder of Governor Goebel of Kentucky. The foreman of the jury which convicted Powers had been a schoolmate of the defendant. Will the republican governor of Indiana accept this second conviction as a reason for the delivery of Mr. Taylor to the Kentucky authorities, or will the Indiana governor use this second conviction as another reason why he should continue to defend a fugitive from justice? If the republican party is in truth the enemy of assassination, it cannot afford to protect a man charged with complicity in assassination, simply because the fugitive happens to be influential in republican circles.

The report of the superintendent of West Point Military Academy contains the cheerful information that hazing has been abolished. For many years army officers insisted that hazing could not be abolished, and successive superintendents acknowledged their inability to stop the brutal practice. But the Cadet Booze case brought on a congressional investigation, and that investigation disclosed such brutalities at the academy that the great American public was aroused. It came to a point where the people demanded the abolition of hazing or the abolition of the academy. As a result hazing was stopped. When the people become aroused to the necessity of a reform the reform comes.

An ex-bank robber, who has reformed, says crusades against vice in great cities usually fail because the reformers become weary of the activity necessary to success. He is right in pointing to the spasmodic character of reform as the weak point in the movements started by the lovers of law and justice. Stealing from the government is a regular business with some, and it cannot be stopped until the honest people become as much in earnest as the criminals are. The commercialism which is lowering the political ideals of the nation is also sapping the purpose of those who give so much time to chasing the dollar that they have no time left for the prosecution of those who offend against government and public conscience.

W. R. Hearst, publisher of the Chicago American, has been cited to appear before Judge Haney and show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of court. Mr. Hearst's paper had the temerity to criticise Judge Haney's decision in the gas and coke company case. This attempt to muzzle the press will fail, as other attempts have failed. When the day comes that the courts are above calm and unbiased criticism it will be sad for the American people. But Judge Haney has his hands full when he endeavors to stifle the Chicago American. These judicial attempts to prevent criticism are becoming altogether too numerous. A year or two ago an Omaha judge issued an order restraining the Omaha World-Herald from printing certain matter in its advertising columns. The World-

Herald promptly defied the judge, printed the matter and assured his honor that the World-Herald was one institution that could not be governed by injunction. The judge made a great bluster and finally beat a graceful retreat. The Commoner feels like saying to Judge Haney what James Whitcomb Riley put into the mouth of one of his characters: "Good-bye, Jim; take keer o' yer-self."

It is reported upon what seems to be good authority that Lady Roberts, wife of General Lord Roberts, is responsible for the degradation of General Buller. The story goes that Lady Roberts felt aggrieved because of some social slight put upon her by the wife of General Buller before General Roberts became a lord. When Buller was restored to the command of an army corps Lady Roberts arose in her wrath and insisted that he be retired. Her influence with her distinguished husband was such that he exercised his influence and authority and had Buller retired. It was reported that Buller's disgrace was visited upon him because of his Ladysmith speech, but this seems to have been an excuse seized upon for the purpose of disguising the real cause. If the story is true it offers some explanation of the disastrous campaign management of the British in South Africa.

The man with a sure sign concerning the winter is with us once more, and numerous. The goosebone, the cornshuck, the squirrel, the chipmunk and other signs and wonders are cited to prove that it is going to be a severe winter, and the same signs and wonders are cited to prove that it will be a mild winter. Every man has a sure method of predicting what the winter will be, and no matter how often or how far he may miss it, he comes up smiling every year with his faith in his signs unshaken. Last summer was a record-breaker in point of prolonged heat, and some wiseacres pretend to see in this a sure sign that the winter will be unusually mild. Other wiseacres insist that it portends a severe winter. But the wind bloweth where it listeth. No man knows what kind of a winter we are to have. But it is safe to act on the supposition that it will be cold and get the heating stoves and furnaces into working order. The man who puts his dependence in goosebones and cornshucks is not wise.

The administration seems to have settled its course in relation to the Boers—there will be no intervention. There is no hope held out to the Boers who are looking to this great republic for sympathy never before withheld. But we may demonstrate the charity of the nation by extending a helping hand to the Boers who are suffering almost within sight of our shores. Hundreds of Boer men, women and children are captives in Bermuda. They are crowded into a comparatively small section, their greater number being allotted to one-third the area devoted to the lesser number of British soldiers guarding them. They are terribly overcrowded. Their homes are floored tents and their rations not at all what they have been accustomed to in their home. They have been forced to make clothing from old sails and blankets. They suffer from bad water, and sickness is devastating their numbers. They sleep on straw beds and suffer untold hardships. The Christian Register invites all good men and women to lend a hand in helping these poor prisoners. Contributions sent "Lend a Hand," No. 1 Beacon street, Boston, will be received and will help in the work of mercy. The administration's attitude toward the nation that is assassinating two little republics in South Africa reflects upon the sincerity of the people of this great republic. Great

Britain rules India with a rod of iron, and America feeds the starving people of India. Great Britain is assassinating republics in South Africa—let the American people show their opposition to this course by extending a helping hand to the Boer prisoners in Bermuda.

It was to have been expected that northern papers would wax wroth and grow bitterly sarcastic in replying to southern strictures upon the president for entertaining Booker T. Washington at dinner. But the southern papers are replying by asking some pertinent questions and citing some pertinent facts. They point out the fact that northern love for the negro is confined to election day. How many business offices in the north employ negro clerks? How many negro trainmen are employed on northern railways? How many negroes have been appointed to postmasterships in the north? How many northern states have elected negro senators or congressmen? How many negro mechanics are employed in northern mills and factories alongside white mechanics? North he is limited to the position of porter in hotels and on trains, or to waiterships in hotels and restaurants. Is there a negro linotype operator on any great daily newspaper in the north that is so roundly denouncing the south for its attitude toward the Roosevelt-Washington dinner incident? Does any one of these northern republican daily newspapers employ a negro pressman, a negro reporter or a negro city editor? Some of these days the negro will realize that he has nothing to gain from the alleged friendship of men who seek to use him for political purposes only.

Local Self-Government.

(Extract from an address made by Louis Kossuth at the Congressional Banquet.)

"Sir, as once Cyneas, the Epirote, stood among the senators of Rome, who, with an earnest word of self-conscious majesty, controlled the condition of the world and arrested mighty kings in their ambitious march, thus, full of admiration and of reverence, I stand before you, legislators of the new capitol—that glorious hall of your people's collective majesty. The capitol of old yet stands, but the spirit has departed from it and come over to yours, purified by the air of liberty. The old stands a mournful monument of the fragility of human things—yours as a sanctuary of eternal rights. The old beamed with the red lustre of conquest, now darkened by oppression's gloomy night—yours beams with freedom's bright ray. The old absorbed the world by its own centralized glory—yours protects your own nation against absorption, even by itself. The old was awful with unrestricted power—yours is glorious for having restricted it. At the view of the old nations trembled—at the view of the yours humanity hopes. To the old misfortune was only introduced with fettered hands to kneel at the triumphant conqueror's heels—to yours the triumph of introduction is granted to unfortunate exiles, invited to the honor of a seat, and where kings and Caesars will never be hailed, for their powers, might, and wealth, there the persecuted chief of a downtrodden nation is welcomed as your great republic's guest, precisely because he is persecuted, helpless, and poor. In the old, the terrible vae victis was the rule—in yours, protection to the oppressed, malediction to ambitious oppressors, and consolation to the vanquished in a just cause. And while out of the old a conquered world was ruled, you in yours provide for the common federative interests of a territory larger than the conquered world of the old. There sat men boasting their will to be sovereign of the world—here sit men whose glory is to acknowledge the laws of nature's God, and to do what their sovereign, the people, wills."